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EXAMINER

ADAMS, CHARLES D

ART UNIT

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/749,842

Applicant(s)

PANDIPATI ET AL.

Examiner

Charles D. Adams

Art Unit

2164

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 October 2007.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4-9 and 13-26 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4-9 and 13-26 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Remarks

1. In response to communications filed on 23 October 2007, claims 1, 4-9, 13-26 are amended. Claims 1, 4-9, and 13-26 are pending in the application.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 15 is objected to because of the following informalities:

The claim is limited to a single search of "the data file". However, in claim 1, the parent claim, there are both a "personal data file" and a "single portable file" listed. It is unclear which file is being referred to.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1, 7, 14-16, 18, and 20-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Syroid et al. ("Outlook 2000 In a Nutshell").

As to claim 1, Syroid et al. teaches providing a single software package which, when executed, produces a data entry interface on a computer display, said data entry interface supporting the creation of the personal data file,

Using said data entry interface to directly enter data in multiple formats including word-processing format, spreadsheet format, image format, video format, and audio format (see Syroid et al. pages 12-14. "When using the MIME standard, messages can contain the following types: Multimedia: image, audio, and video messages" and see Syroid et al. page 462. All personal folders can stored in a single Personal Storage file (PST). Also see page 460. Multiple folder types can be archived),

Storing the personal data of the user contained in the data entered in the multiple formats into one or more of a plurality of categories displayed on a menu bar (see page 462, Figure 13-4. A column, or bar, of categories is shown) of said data entry interface, said plural categories each including dropdown menus displaying subcategories for further organizing the data entered into one or more of said subcategories (see page 462, Figure 13-4. All of the displayed categories contain expansion buttons next to them. Clicking on the expansion button will cause a list of subcategories to "drop down" from the parent category),

Wherein data in said multiple formats is directly entered into said data entry interface in the multiple formats by selecting at least one subcategory from among said subcategories by selecting said at least one subcategory from said one of said dropdown menus and directly entering the data in multiple formats into said at least one subcategory (see page 165, messages and mail items can be moved and placed into a folder), and

Storing the personal data file created from the data entered and organized as a single portable file (see Syroid et al. page 462. All personal folders can

stored in a single Personal Storage file (PST). Also see page 460. Multiple folder types can be archived).

As to claim 7, Syroid et al. teaches enabling the plurality of categories to include one or more user-defined categories that are able to be created by the user and displayed adjacent to the pre-defined data categories on the menu bar of the data entry interface (see Syroid et al. pages 160-161. Users can create new folders and add shortcuts to the Outlook Bar, which contains default folders. Also see page 462, Figure 13-4, which includes many user-defined categories).

As to claim 14, Syroid et al. teaches further comprising a step of accessing and managing of the entered personal data by accessing the data in word processing format, spreadsheet format, image format, audio format, and video format using the data entry interface to access the data in the format in which it was entered (see page 129 and 160. Outlook has navigation tools that provide for management of data in word processing format and image format).

As to claim 15, Syroid et al. teaches further comprising a step of searching an entirety of the user's personal data by performing a single search (see page 117, Figure 3-43. The "Personal Folder" box can be checked, and subfolders can be searched. Therefore, the entirety of the personal data can be searched).

As to claim 16, Syroid et al. teaches further comprising a step of creating new categories, sub-categories, and sub-sub categories of personal data in said data entry interface for display on said computer display (see page 543, 544, and Figure 17-4. Folders can be created in sub-folders).

As to claim 18, Syroid et al. teaches further comprising a step of accessing and viewing, using the data entry interface, the entered data in various formats generated by the software, including lists, tables, graphs, and charts (see pages 158-160, figure 4-28, and page 164, Figure 4-31. "For example, you could have your Inbox running in one window with the Outlook Bar and/or Folder List displayed for fast file management chores, and in a separate window (typically minimized) your Calendar displayed in the view of your choice, devoid of any navigation tools", pg 158, "Open in New Window". Also see pages 77-80 for customizing views in Outlook 2000).

As to claim 20, Syroid et al. teaches further comprising a step of accessing and viewing, using the data entry interface, the various formats for that are user defined by selection of categories, sub-categories, and/or sub-sub-categories (see pages 316-317 and page 158, "Open in New Window").

As to claim 21, Syroid et al. teaches further comprising a step of alerting the user in advance of an event identified in said personal data (see page 296-297).

As to claim 22, Syroid et al. teaches further comprising a step of entering the data via a keyboard using the data entry interface in multiple formats that include word-processing format and spreadsheet format enabling entry of numerical data for numerical processing (see page 160-161 (a calendar is a spreadsheet. Dates and Times can be entered on the calendar. As times are numbers, they undergo 'numerical processing'. Also 266-267, wherein data is entered by a keyboard).

As to claim 23, Syroid et al. teaches further comprising a step of supporting multiple users in an environment, wherein each of said users is provided an independent user ID and password (see page 25 "Internet Mail Logon").

As to claim 24, Syroid et al. teaches further comprising a step of uploading the user's personal data file to a unique website to allow the user to access the personal data file in the format in which the personal data was entered from anywhere that Internet access is provided (see page 25 "Mail Connection Type", "At home you use a dial-up connection to access your personal mail via an ISP").

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 4 and 25-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Syroid et al. ("Outlook 2000 In a Nutshell") in view of Yeung et al. (US Pre-Grant Publication 2003/0093556).

As to claim 4,

Syroid et al. does not teach further comprising a step of scanning the data directly to said data entry interface, wherein, when said data entered by scanning includes personal information in an alphanumeric form, said software extracts said personal information from the data entered by scanning

Yeung et al. teaches further comprising a step of scanning the data directly to said data entry interface, wherein, when said data entered by scanning includes personal information in an alphanumeric form, said software extracts said personal information from the data entered by scanning (see paragraphs [0124] and [0170]. Images are captured by a scanner and filed into a particular Inbox folder in the file system, based on a user name).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Syroid et al. to include the teaching of Yeung et al., since Yeung et al. teaches "a document management system that overcomes a conventional barrier of requiring navigation through a third-party interface to access appliance system documents by providing access

to the document management repository via a folder incorporated into the existing operating system file structure" (see paragraph [0077]).

As to claim 25, Syroid et al. teaches a computer display displaying a data entry interface produced by execution of a single software package that supports entry of data in multiple formats so that personal data of a user can be entered to create a single personal data file (see Syroid et al. pages 460 and 462),

Wherein the data entered in multiple formats using the data entry interface includes data entered using a keyboard (see pages 332-333. Data is typed out into the fields)

Syroid et al. does not explicitly teach and data extracted by the software from scanned documents containing alphanumeric information or graphical information,

Yeung et al. teaches and data extracted by the software from scanned documents containing alphanumeric information or graphical information (see paragraphs [0124] and [0170]),

Syroid et al. as modified teaches:

Wherein the personal data of the user contained in the data entered in the multiple formats is organized and stored into one or more of a plurality of categories displayed on a menu bar of said data entry interface, said plurality of categories each including dropdown menus displaying subcategories for further organizing the data entered directly into said data entry interface (see page 462, Figure 13-4. All of the displayed categories contain expansion buttons next to

them. Clicking on the expansion button will cause a list of subcategories to “drop down” from the parent category),

Wherein data in said multiple formats is directly entered into said data entry interface in said multiple formats by selecting at least one said subcategory from among said subcategories by selecting said at least one subcategory from one of said dropdown menus and directly entering the data in the multiple formats into said at least one subcategory (see page 165, messages and mail items can be moved and placed into a folder), and

Wherein personal data is accessed and viewed using said computer display to view the personal data in multiple formats including lists, tables, graphs, and charts created by automatically organizing said personal data (see pages 158-160, figure 4-28, and page 164, Figure 4-31. “For example, you could have your Inbox running in one window with the Outlook Bar and/or Folder List displayed for fast file management chores, and in a separate window (typically minimized) your Calendar displayed in the view of your choice, devoid of any navigation tools”, pg 158, “Open in New Window”. Also see pages 77-80 for customizing views in Outlook 2000).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Syroid et al. to include the teaching of Yeung et al., since Yeung et al. teaches “a document management system that overcomes a conventional barrier of requiring navigation through a third-party interface to access appliance system documents by providing access

to the document management repository via a folder incorporated into the existing operating system file structure" (see paragraph [0077]).

As to claim 26, Syroid et al. teaches providing a data entry interface displayed on a computer display by execution of a single software package, said data entry interface supporting entry of data in multiple formats so that personal data of a user can be entered into a single personal data file (see Syroid et al. pages 460 and 462),

Wherein the data entered in multiple formats includes data entered using a keyboard, data entered in a spreadsheet format, data entered in an image format, data entered in a video format, data entered in an audio format (see Syroid et al. pages 216 and 220. The personal data is accessed and viewed in the form of icons. Also see Syroid et al. pages 12-14. "When using the MIME standard, messages can contain the following types: Multimedia: image, audio, and video messages"),

Syroid et al. does not explicitly teach and data entered by scanning, including data extracted by the software from scanned documents containing alphanumeric information or graphic information,

Yeung et al. teaches and data entered by scanning, including data extracted by the software from scanned documents containing alphanumeric information or graphic information (see paragraphs [0124] and [0170]),

Syroid et al. as modified teaches:

Storing the personal data of the user containing in the data entered in the multiple formats into one or more of a plurality of categories displayed on a menu bar of said data entry interface, said plurality of categories each including dropdown menus displaying subcategories for further organizing the data entered (see page 462, Figure 13-4. All of the displayed categories contain expansion buttons next to them. Clicking on the expansion button will cause a list of subcategories to “drop down” from the parent category),

Wherein data in said multiple formats is directly entered in said multiple formats into said data entry interface by selecting at least one said subcategory from among said subcategories by selecting said at least one subcategory from one of said dropdown menus and directly entering the data in the multiple formats into said at least one subcategory (see page 165, messages and mail items can be moved and placed into a folder),

Storing the personal data file as a single portable file (see Syroid et al. pages 460 and 462), and

Accessing and viewing the personal data using the computer display and said software package to view the personal data in the multiple formats in which the data was originally entered, including word processing format, spreadsheet format, image format, audio format, and video format. (see Syroid et al. pages 216 and 220. The personal data is accessed and viewed in the form of icons. Also see Syroid et al. pages 12-14. “When using the MIME standard, messages can contain the following types: Multimedia: image, audio, and video messages”).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Syroid et al. to include the teaching of Yeung et al., since Yeung et al. teaches "a document management system that overcomes a conventional barrier of requiring navigation through a third-party interface to access appliance system documents by providing access to the document management repository via a folder incorporated into the existing operating system file structure" (see paragraph [0077]).

7. Claims 5-6, 8, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Syroid et al. ("Outlook 2000 In a Nutshell") in view of Examiner taking Official Notice.

The following section of the MPEP (Chapter 2106, Section IV) is used in the following rejections:

If the difference between the prior art and the claimed invention is limited to descriptive material stored on or employed by a machine, Office personnel must determine whether the descriptive material is functional descriptive material or nonfunctional descriptive material, as described supra in paragraphs IV.B.1(a) and IV. B.1(b). Functional descriptive material is a limitation in the claim and must be considered and addressed in assessing patentability under 35 U.S.C. 103. Thus, a rejection of the claim as a whole under 35 U.S.C. 103 is inappropriate unless the functional descriptive material would have been suggested by the prior art. In re Dembiczak, 175 F.3d 994, 1000, 50 USPQ2d 1614, 1618 (Fed. Cir. 1999). Nonfunctional descriptive material cannot render nonobvious an invention that would have otherwise been obvious. In re Ngai, 367 F.3d 1336, 1339, 70 USPQ2d 1862, 1864 (Fed. Cir. 2004) (combining printed instructions and an old product into a kit will not render the claimed invention nonobvious even if the instructions detail a new use for the product).< Cf. In re Gulack, 703 F.2d 1381, 1385, 217 USPQ 401, 404 (Fed. Cir. 1983) (when descriptive material is not functionally related to the substrate, the descriptive material will not distinguish the invention from the prior art in terms of patentability).

Common situations involving nonfunctional descriptive material are:

- a computer-readable storage medium that differs from the prior art solely with respect to nonfunctional descriptive material, such as music or a literary work, encoded on the medium,

- a computer that differs from the prior art solely with respect to nonfunctional descriptive material that cannot alter how the machine functions (i.e., the descriptive material does not reconfigure the computer), or
- a process that differs from the prior art only with respect to nonfunctional descriptive material that cannot alter how the process steps are to be performed to achieve the utility of the invention.

Thus, if the prior art suggests storing a song on a disk, merely choosing a particular song to store on the disk would be presumed to be well within the level of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made. The difference between the prior art and the claimed invention is simply a rearrangement of nonfunctional descriptive material.

As to claim 5, Syroid et al. teaches further comprising a step of defining said plurality of categories to include pre-defined personal data categories including: a) contact information and directions (see page 332, Figure 8-3);

Syroid et al. does not teach b) financial matters.

However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Syroid et al. to include a pre-defined folder for financial matters, because it is simply non-functional descriptive data. Having a folder for financial data doesn't change the algorithm itself. In addition to this, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have recognized that Syroid et al. teaches that one can implement custom folders in Outlook 2000 (see pages 543-544).

Syroid et al. as modified teaches c) reminders (see page 296-297, and Official Notice); and d) records (see page 266, Figures 6-24 and 6-25).

As to claim 6, Syroid et al. teaches the method according to claim 5.

Syroid et al. does not teach further comprising a step of defining said subcategories to include pre-defined data sub-categories within each of the pre-defined personal data categories.

However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Syroid et al. to include more pre-defined folders that were child folders of the already existing pre-defined folder. An increased number of child folders is non-functional descriptive material, and would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

As to claim 8, Syroid et al. teaches further comprising a step of providing free data categories in which information related to contact information for a person may be entered (see page 339-340),

Syroid et al. does not teach including directions to the person's location, names and ages of the person's spouse and children, including birthdays and anniversaries for the person, and

However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Syroid et al. to include these types of information in the notes field. These information types simply describe non-functional descriptive material. The addition of different types of information to a notes field would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made.

Syroid et al. as modified teaches lists that include entries for the person's contact information and/or the directions (see page 332, Figure 8-3, "Categories").

As to claim 17, Syroid et al. teaches the method according to claim 1.

Syroid et al. does not explicitly teach storing the user's personal data in the single portable file on a CD or a diskette.

However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Syroid et al. to include recording a data file on different mediums. Figure 13-4, page 462 of Syroid et al. shows that one can choose the location where one's personal data will be stored. It also shows a browse button. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have browsed to a floppy diskette or CD drive to save one's personal data file on.

8. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Syroid et al. ("Outlook 2000 In a Nutshell") in view of Yeung et al. (US Pre-Grant Publication 2003/0093556), and further in view of Examiner taking Official Notice.

As to claim 13, Syroid et al. as modified teaches the method according to claim 4.

Syroid et al. teaches storing the images of scanned documents as the personal data of the user in the data file by directly scanning into one of said sub-

categories of the data entry interface (see Yeung et al. paragraphs [0124] and [0170])

Syroid et al. as modified does not teach including images of at least one of wills, trusts, passports, house deeds, automobile ownership papers, drivers license, social security card and records, insurance policies, marriage and birth certificates, organ donor information, blood type, educational and professional certificates, CD certificates, data from receipts of jewelry and other valuables, warranties, receipts and/or appraisal for jewelry, clothes, furniture, and other valuables, photos of jewelry, passports, and warranties.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Syroid et al. by the teaching of Yeung et al., since Yeung et al. teaches “a document management system that overcomes a conventional barrier of requiring navigation through a third-party interface to access appliance system documents by providing access to the document management repository via a folder incorporated into the existing operating system file structure” (see paragraph [0077]).

It would further have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Syroid et al. to include categories and electronic messages that contain these specific types of data. It is inherent that Outlook 2000 allows one to create custom folders and organize items (see Syroid et al. pages 160-161).

9. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Syroid et al. ("Outlook 2000 In a Nutshell") in view of Nguyen et al. (US Pre-Grant Publication 2005/0033615).

As to claim 9, Syroid et al. teaches creating and storing the lists in the single personal data file, the lists including at least one of a Christmas/New Year's greeting card list, birthday/wedding anniversary card list, invitation to event lists and/or user defined lists (see Syroid et al. pages 340 and 462);

Syroid et al. does not teach accessing the lists for printing one or more labels using the data entry interface.

Nguyen et al. teaches accessing the lists for printing one or more labels using the data entry interface (see paragraph [0076]).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Syroid et al. by the teaching of Nguyen et al., since Nguyen et al. teaches that "another important advantage of the event planning system of the present invention is that it facilitates event planning tasks including identifying and contracting with venue providers and vendors for the event, inviting guests, soliciting RSVP fees from invitees who respond affirmatively, receiving the RSVP fees, tracking RSVP status of each invited guest, tracking and managing RSVP accounts generated by the RSVP fees, and sending guest reminders" (see paragraph [0023]).

10. Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Syroid et al. ("Outlook 2000 In a Nutshell"), in view of Examiner taking Official Notice, and further in view of Nguyen et al. (US Pre-Grant Publication 2005/0033615).

As to claim 19, Syroid et al. teaches the method according to claim 18.

Syroid et al. does not teach further comprising a step of accessing and viewing, using the data entry interface, the entered data in various formats that include Christmas mailing address labels and birthday and wedding anniversary greeting card labels for birthdays and wedding anniversaries occurring in a particular month or over a pre-determined duration; and

However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Syroid et al. to include viewing items as certain types of labels, depending on a certain event or season. Contacts can be viewed by "address cards" (see page 78). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have included certain event labels on those address cards.

Syroid et al. as modified does not teach printing one or more of the labels using the data entry interface.

Nguyen et al. teaches printing one or more of the labels using the data entry interface (see paragraph [0076]).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Syroid et al. by the teaching of

Nguyen et al., since Nguyen et al. teaches that "another important advantage of the event planning system of the present invention is that it facilitates event planning tasks including identifying and contracting with venue providers and vendors for the event, inviting guests, soliciting RSVP fees from invitees who respond affirmatively, receiving the RSVP fees, tracking RSVP status of each invited guest, tracking and managing RSVP accounts generated by the RSVP fees, and sending guest reminders" (see paragraph [0023]).

Response to Arguments

11. Applicant's arguments filed 23 October 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In regards to the independent claims, Applicant argues that "Outlook makes no provision for directly entering personal data in a spreadsheet format, image format, audio, or video format using a data entry interface displayed on a computer display. Thus, the present invention allows direct entry of the personal data in multiple formats and it does not require different Software programs for entering the data in the various formats". In response to this argument, Examiner notes that information may be 'directly' entered by attaching the files to a message and by receiving messages in MIME format, as stated above.

As applicant states in regards to the MIME standard, messages can contain image, audio, and video messages. Thus, when a file is attached to the message, it is directly entered into the message. Applicant argues that "this

method suggested by the Office Action does not allow selecting at least one subcategory from one of said dropdown menus and directly entering the data in the multiple formats into said at least one subcategory". However, as noted, users may directly enter a message into a subcategory by directly moving the message into that category. As MIME messages may be encoded with files of different formats, this fully meets the limitation "wherein data in said multiple formats is directly entered into said data entry interface in the multiple formats by selecting at least one said subcategory from among said subcategories by selecting said at least one subcategory from one of said dropdown menus and directly entering the data in the multiple formats into said at least one subcategory".

Applicant argues that "'Entering' data is different from attaching a file to an e-mail because 'entering data in a spreadsheet format' allows for processing of the data, whereas 'attaching' a file merely relocates the file to a new location". However, it is noted that 'attaching' a file also 'allows for processing of data', so it follows that attaching, by applicant's definition, is the same as 'entering' data. Applicants argue that "further, under the attaching process proposed in the Office Action, first the original data must be entered / created in spreadsheet format using a separate spreadsheet software application package, and then a MIME e-mail must be used to save the file in an Outlook entry". However, the word 'created' appears nowhere in the claim, and is *not* synonymous with 'entered'. The claims only go so far as to say 'directly entering' data, which, as stated

above, can be done in Syroid et al. by directly attaching a file to an email and directly placing that message in a folder.

In regards to claim 7, Applicant argues that "claim 7 recites that the plurality of categories include one or more user-defined categories displayed adjacent to the pre-defined data categories on the menu bar of the data entry interface. Outlook merely teaches that users can create new folders and add shortcuts to the Outlook bar. Applicants' categories are not limited to creating a folder. Instead, each category has subcategories displayed in dropdown menus". It is noted that Syroid et al. teaches creating user defined categories (folders) that are displayed adjacent to pre-defined categories (see Syroid et al. pages 160-161. Users can create new folders and add shortcuts to the Outlook Bar, which contains default folders. Also see page 462, Figure 13-4, which includes many user-defined categories).

The amendment in regards to claims 9 and 19 has necessitated the new grounds of rejection stated above. As such, the argument in regards to claims 9 and 19 is moot.

In regards to claim 14, Applicant argues that "Outlook does not have provisions for accessing and managing a user's personal numerical data in spreadsheet format, accessing a scanned document, a voice recording, or a video recording. In claim 14, all personal data entered in multiple formats can be

accessed and managed in the formats in which they were entered using the data entry interface". In response to this argument, Examiner notes that the amended claim languages states "accessing and managing the entered personal data by accessing the data in word processing format, spreadsheet format, image format, audio format and video format using the data entry interface to access the data in the format in which it was entered". It is noted that, in Syroid et al., the data is entered as an attachment to an email. Syroid et al. provides for accessing the data as an attachment to an email.

In regards to claim 15, Applicant argues that "Outlook, on the other hand, does not have a provision by which an entirety of a user's personal data which has been entered in word format, personal numerical data in spreadsheet format, scanned documents, voice recordings, and video recordings are searched by performing a single search". In response to this argument, Examiner notes that Syroid et al., Figure 3-43, shows that a search may be done over attachments (Files). Thus, Outlook does have a provision by which an entirety of a user's personal data which has been entered (attached to emails) in various formats can be searched.

In regards to claims 16 and 20, Applicant argues that "Applicants' categories and sub-categories are not limited to creating a folder". However, it is noted that categories and sub-categories are functionally equivalent to folders, and Syroid et al. teaches creating folders and sub-folders. It is noted that Syroid

et al. teaches creating user defined categories (folders) that are displayed adjacent to pre-defined categories (see Syroid et al. pages 160-161. Users can create new folders and add shortcuts to the Outlook Bar, which contains default folders. Also see page 462, Figure 13-4, which includes many user-defined categories).

In regards to claim 18, Applicant argues that "Outlook does not have a provision wherein the entered user's personal data that was entered in multiple formats is accessed and viewed as lists, tables, graphs, and charts generated by the software". However, it is noted that Syroid et al. teaches accessing and viewing in list format, table format, graph format, or chart format (as a list of items, a list with one column and multiple rows, a folder tree (as a tree is a graph), and a chart (information is presented in the form of tables and different views).

In regards to claim 22, Applicant argues that "Outlook, on the other hand, provides a calendar function, but the calendar can not perform the above-mentioned numerical processing or entry of data in a spreadsheet format". However, Outlook can perform "numerical processing" in the form of dates and times, and determining when to remind a user that an event is approaching (see pages 296-297).

In regards to claim 24, Applicant argues that "Outlook does not have a provision by which a user's personal data in word format, spreadsheet format, scanned document format, voice recording, and video recording is uploaded to a unique website to allow easy access to the personal data in the format in which it was entered from anywhere internet access is provided. Outlook only teaches email, and does not teach a single personal data file that is uploaded to a website". In response to this argument, Examiner notes that the argument that Outlook does not support entering various formats was responded to above in regards to the independent claims. Examiner also notes that Syroid et al. states that "At home you use a dial-up connection to access your personal mail via an ISP" (see page 25). It is also noted that neither claim 1 nor claim 24 recite a "scanned document format".

In regards to claims 4, 25, and 26, Applicant argues that Yeung et al. "does not teach or suggest extracting personal information from the scanned document". In response to this argument, Examiner notes that Yeung et al. teaches in paragraphs [0170]-[0171] and [0175] extracting personal information from data that was entered by scanning.

Conclusion

12. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.**

See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charles D. Adams whose telephone number is (571) 272-3938. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM, M - F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on (571) 272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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